



Williams' Tell Weekly – Parent Edition

Week of: November 16 2020 – November 20, 2020

Trait of the Month: Fairness

The mission of The Dr. G.W. Williams Secondary School is to develop literate students who are innovative, well-rounded lifelong learners and critical thinkers. We aim to foster caring global citizens who maintain inclusive and respectful interactions with others.

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Social Media: @drgwwilliams ([Instagram](#) & [Twitter](#))

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Extensions:
Reception 0
Attendance 1
Guidance 3
Staff Directory 4

Nov. 16	Deadline for changing Secondary Model (Adaptive To Virtual or Virtual to Adaptive Schooling) for Semester Two is November 16 @ 8 a.m. (see more details below) Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal School Council Meeting – Virtual – 7:00 PM (see agenda for link below)
Nov. 17	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Nov. 18	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Math Contest (CSIMC)
Nov. 19	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 1 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Mid-term report cards distributed electronically
Nov. 20	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal

Upcoming:

Nov. 23	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Class of 2020 – Graduation Pick-up – 11:30 AM – 6:00 PM BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Nov. 24	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Class of 2020 – Graduation Pick-up – 11:30 AM – 5:00 PM BY APPOINTMENT ONLY Class of 2020 Virtual Graduation 7:00 PM
Nov. 25	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 1 Odd numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal
Nov. 26	Cohort B Face to Face, Period 1 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal Last day of Period 1 Face to Face
Nov. 27	Cohort A Face to Face, Period 2 Even numbered classrooms 10:45 dismissal First day of Period 2 Face to Face

Message from the Principal

This week we were treated to an excellent virtual Remembrance Day presentation developed by our History Department (T. McKinley, S. Deputat and A. Buono) highlighting the contributions of members of the Williams School Community to the war efforts. We appreciate the student contributions as well and thank Michael W. and Evan S. for their narration of the video. It was a great way for our whole school to pause and reflect on Wednesday morning just before dismissal in the morning.

Our Class of 2020 graduates have begun signing up to pick-up their grad materials on November 23 & 24. Information has been sent to all graduates to book a time for their pick-up.

Our teaching staff have been busy this week marking, providing feedback and preparing mid-term report cards for students. Families will receive the mid-term report cards electronically on November 19th.

I encourage all parents to join us for our School Council meeting on Monday evening. The agenda is below with the link for the meeting. This month we will be finishing the Principal Profile and hearing from our Head of Math and Head of English.

Take care,
Melissa Schmidt

Notices

Deadline for changing from Adaptive To Virtual Schooling or Virtual to Adaptive Schooling for Semester Two is November 16 @ 8 a.m.

Through this Model Change Request Form, parents/guardians of secondary school students may request a change from Adaptive Face-to-Face learning to Virtual learning, or from Virtual learning to Adaptive Face-to-Face. Information about both learning models can be found on the Board website at www.yrdsb.ca/school-reopening.

On Monday, November 9, Parents/Guardians of secondary school students were given access to the School Model Change Request Form through their child's Gapps account. Parents/guardians will work with their child to complete the Google form and once submitted, a copy of the response will be available in the student's Gapps email account.

Only families of secondary students requesting a school model change will need to complete this form. The form must be completed by Monday, November 16, 2020 at 8 a.m. to be considered. If you do not wish to change models, there is no action needed on your part.

Included in this email is a link to the [Model Change Request Form](#).

As YRDSB indicated previously, moving between school models can only be considered at certain points in the school year. **Beyond this opportunity, there will be no further opportunities to consider changes between the secondary school models this school year.**

Wildcat Shout Out

We would like to recognize the contributions of our students and staff within our school community each month with a Wildcat Shout Out. If you know someone in the Williams School Community who has done something that we should recognize please complete this [form](#) so that we can give them a Shout Out!

Williams Spirit Wear

To order Williams Spirit Wear please go to : <http://www.schoolwear.ca> and use code GWW

In order to receive Holiday delivery your order must be placed by November 15th. We are offering two types of hoodies this year. All orders must be placed through the website. Curbside pick-up at Marchand's or home delivery is available. Unfortunately, we can't offer school delivery at this time.

This year the Williams Athletic Council has started up again! We wanted to bring a little spirit back to the school during such a challenging time. The new WAC leaders have joined together with Mr. Julyan and Mrs. Mann to incorporate some small physical and mental activities in the classroom. All classes will be invited to participate in monthly challenges. These challenges will be during face to face learning.

Revised School Screening Checklist

Every day, parents/guardians and students over 18 are responsible for reviewing and adhering to the checklist from York Region Public Health. This checklist has been recently updated to reflect the Ontario government's revised [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in Schools](#) and Child Care.

Please note that the new screening guide applies to children only and the adult screening has not changed. Thank you for working with us to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families and to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Math Enrichment Opportunities

Due to the adaptive model we are following this year, we cannot offer the typical array of math contests and math club enrichment opportunities at Williams. However, thanks to some accommodations made by Universities, it is possible that our students can still participate in some of these activities. To best communicate these opportunities, we have created a "Math Club" Google Classroom that contains links to enrichment opportunities as well as all the information (and relevant links) we currently have with regard to the contests we normally participate in. We will not be running an actual Math Club through the classroom, but we will continue to update it with any pertinent information and/or links throughout the school year. The Math Club Classroom is open to any Williams students who would like to join. Please use the join code: cxwtmf4

Guidance

Specialist High Skills Majors

All SHSM students should now have access to the new SHSM classroom. The classroom has important information related to reach ahead opportunities, SHSM events, and self-reporting tools. Please check your GAPPS email for your classroom invite.

Virtual Financial Workshop

- Be sure to check out our virtual financial workshop happening November 10th at 3:00pm. The link to the workshop is located on your graduation year Google Classroom.

Applying University and/or College

- University applicants' PIN number to apply to schools have been sent to student GAPPS email accounts. Please see the “**How to Apply**” section in the Grade 12 Google Classroom for more information on the application process.
- College applicants do not need a PIN number to apply but will need to know their Ontario Education Number (OEN) which can be found on a report card. Please see the “**How to Apply**” section in the Grade 12 Google Classroom for more information on the application process.

Community Services

- Changes have been made to the Community Involvement Graduation Requirements. Information on requirements and eligibility can be found on the Grade 12 Google Classroom.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Please check the graduation class of 2021 for the most recent updates to Scholarships and Bursaries information.

RTC Computer Purchase Program

Once again we are pleased to offer this to our Williams families. Please see the attached flyer below for more information on accessing this program.

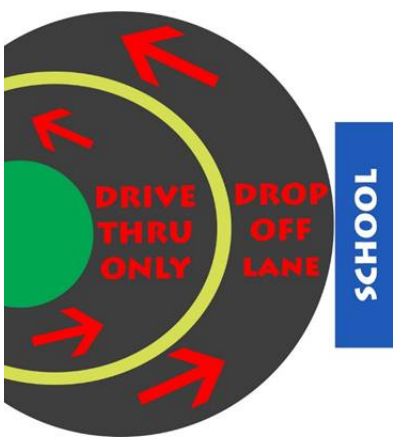
[FLYER](#)

Driveway and Parking Lot

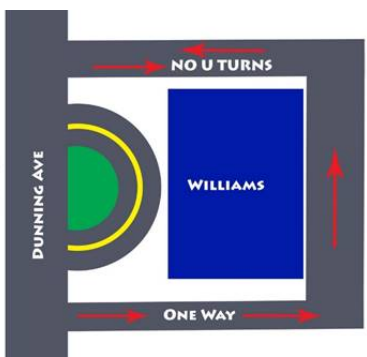
The safety of all students must be everyone's first priority. Please follow the procedures below.

At the end of the school day, the front driveway loop is closed to regular traffic from about 10:40 to 11:00. Only school taxis and buses are to use the front driveway loop at the end of the day in order to create a safe place for our students with special needs. Once all the school taxis and buses leave the front driveway loop around 11:00, regular traffic may use this area. To support our efforts to ensure physical

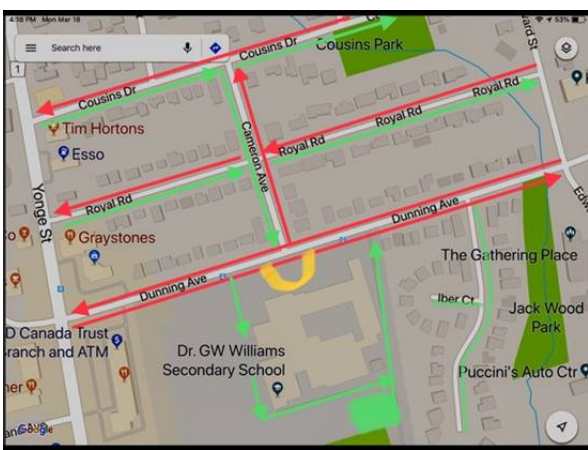
distancing, we ask that you make arrangements to meet your students at the nearest exit from their classroom (in one of the parking lots) or off school property (down the street, around the corner, etc.). Please see the maps below to support your efforts.



There is one-way traffic in our front driveway loop. In the front driveway loop, drop off/pick up students on the right side; drive through only on the left side. For safety reasons, do not drop off/pick up students on the left side.



There is one-way traffic in the west entrance and on the south (back) side of the school. It is two-way traffic on the east side of the school. Do not make U-turns anywhere in the east parking lot from Dunning Avenue to the south parking lot. Making a U-turn in this area creates an unsafe condition for pedestrians and other vehicles. If you need to turn around, please pull into a parking spot and carefully back out.



Please note that Dunning Avenue is a **no stopping zone**. This is noted by the signage along the street and on the map above you can see the red arrows on both sides of the street. Our School Council previously worked with local by-law officials to identify areas within the neighbourhood that parents can pick up their students. Please note the arrows in green and red to support the effective flow of traffic in the area.

Thank you for your cooperation with this!

School Calendar for 2020-2021

The Ministry of Education has approved the school calendar for 2020-2021. For Williams, some important dates and holidays are:

- Winter Break – Monday December 21, 2020 January 1, 2021
- Family Day – Monday, February 15, 2021
- March Break – Monday, March 15, 2021 to Friday March 19, 2021
- Good Friday – Friday, April 2, 2021
- Easter Monday – Monday, April 5, 2021
- Victoria Day – Monday, May 24, 2021

PA Days for Williams (but not necessarily for elementary schools in our area) are:

- Friday November 13, 2020
- Monday February 15, 2021
- Friday May 7, 2021
- Tuesday June 29, 2021

School Council Meetings for 2020-2021

- Monday October 19, 2020 [Agenda & Previous Minutes](#)
- Monday November 16, 2020 [Agenda & Previous Minutes](#)
- Monday January 18, 2021
- Tuesday March 23, 2021
- Monday May 17, 2021